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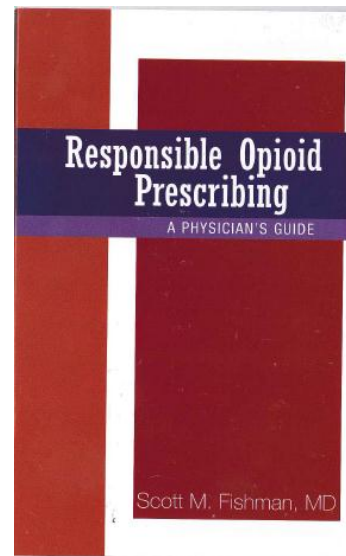
Board of Medicine offers book on pain medication prescribing

DES MOINES, IA – The Iowa Board of Medicine is offering Iowa physicians another resource to use when prescribing controlled substances to patients who suffer from chronic pain.

"Responsible Opioid Prescribing: A Physician's Guide" is offered free of charge to physicians upon request. To order a copy, call (515) 242-6039 or send an e-mail to ibm@iowa.gov. Include the physician's name and postal address.

The book, by Scott Fishman, M.D., identifies pragmatic steps for reducing a patient's risk of addiction, abuse and diversion of pain medications. The book complements Iowa's administrative rule on pain management, IAC 653 – 13.2

Chief of the division of pain medication and a professor of anesthesiology and pain medicine at the University of California at Davis, Fishman prepared the book in collaboration with the Federation of State Medical Boards, a consortium of physician licensing and regulatory boards, including Iowa.



"Offering this book to Iowa physicians sends a strong message from the Board of Medicine that appropriate, safe, and effective pain management is an important part of providing good patient care," said Siroos Shiraz, M.D., Board chair. "When opioids are identified as appropriate for the treatment of pain, physicians have a responsibility to manage and reduce the risks associated with these controlled substances."